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able for chinquapin and swamp magnolias, and there was planted another large group of *Kalmias*, than which these early collectors, like ourselves, seem to have found no shrub more admirable.

In addition to the seeds collected from the gardens and the forests about it, many were collected to order by the settlers living at a distance, and brought on their occasional visit to the sea-board. In this way Michaux obtained his stock of "scrub-oak" (*Q. ilicifolia*) from Paramus, just north of Hohokus. The seeds were kept dry and cool until just before the departure of a vessel, when they were packed "in iron-hooped boxes, between layers of rotten wood," in which condition many of them were sprouted on their arrival in France. It is believed that no shipment was ever lost by wreck. Mrs. Williams graphically describes the appearance of the wagons, with their great stacks of boxes, looking at a distance like loads of hay. She also remembers the steady decrease in the orders, until finally the shipments ceased, nearly fifty years ago, with one of three small boxes.

Reference is made to the extensive forests of *Cupressus thyoides* that bordered the swamp, and extended into it in the form of peninsulas and islands. It is definitely stated that while part of this died, as it is now doing, by the depression of the land, the most of it was cut away to be used in fencing; for the value of this timber, on account of its lightness and durability was early recognized.

Of everything planted by Michaux and Saunier it is probable that not a vestige remains except two old pear-trees, one in the cemetery, the other just across the road, and of the history of these nothing positive is known. A double row of Lombardy poplars planted by Mr. Saunier for "old Mr. Stevens," remained until quite recently, when they were destroyed in grading. Even the orchards are gone. The only positive living relics are two plants of *Berberis vulgaris* taken from the garden by Mrs. Williams and now growing in her dooryard at New Durham.

It seems eminently fitting that the Torrey Botanical Club should erect a monument to this excellent man and botanist, upon the spot which, the scene of his loving and conscientious labors, has so strangely become set apart as a depository for memorials of the dead.

**A Botanical Trip into Northern New Jersey.**—The evening of the 16th of last July found me under the hospitable roof of Rev. Mr. Clarke, of Stillwater, Sussex County. Early next morning his two sons, students in Lafayette College, drove me three miles, to the southwestern extremity of Swartswood Lake. On the edge of the stream near the outlet, the following plants were noted: *Cicuta bulbifera*, L., *Myosotis laxa*, Lehm., *Peltandra undulata*, Raf., *Sparganium eurycarpum*, Engelm., (in fruit), *Pontederia cordata* L., and *Equisetum limosum*, L. Taking a boat, the young men rowed me up the western shore, three miles, to the head of the lake. This shore has a few low limestone bluffs and sheltered coves between. The water is shallow, and our course lay through acres of *Nymphæa odorata*, Ait., and *Brasenia peltata*, Ph. Underneath, at a depth of three feet or more, the bottom is covered everywhere with the dark, regularly disposed, plume-like, waving stems of *Potamogeton Robbinsii*, Oakes, amongst which are to be seen, here and there, patches of *P. amplifolius*, Tuckerm., distinguished by its lighter yellowish hue, and broad leaves curiously twisted and curled. In one of the coves we came upon *Nasturtium lacustre*, Gray, (in flower and fruit). I had collected it during a former visit (Sept. 2, 1879) at a single station, but now it was observed at various places from the head of the lake to the outlet. The leaves, both those above the water and those beneath, are very easily detached, so that it is difficult to make complete specimens. At this spot we fished up half a dozen stalks of *Ranunculus aquatilis*, L., var. *divaricatus*, Chaix. (in flower), and *Potamogeton lucens* (in flower and fruit). The opposite border of the cove is lined with a dense growth of *Saururus cernuus*, L., conspicuous by its nodding spikes of fragrant flowers. This plant is common all along the Paulinskill Creek from the lake to the Delaware, fifteen miles, but, strange to say, it has been observed, as yet, on that river, only at Trenton, about seventy miles further down. As we passed around the main bluff, or promontory, some bushes of *Myrica cerifera* were seen on its slopes, and at its base, a solitary *Salix lucida*, Muhl. From this point we proceeded over a considerable bay to the northeastern end of the lake and glided into an area, several acres in extent, occupied by *Nelumbium luteum*, Willd. The vernation of the leaves is involute. Some project themselves above the water, whilst the others stop at the surface. These latter in unfolding assume the form of a bowl, or basin, or inverted skull-cap, and are very pretty objects as they float. When fully expanded, they are of a deep green color above and lie flat on the water, which, cast upon them by the dip of an oar, rolls and divides itself like quicksilver, emitting a brilliant silvery light. The cause of this phenomenon is worthy of investigation. The leaves of *Orontium aquaticum*, L., behave in the same way. To our great disappointment not a single flower could be discovered in the entire colony. It may have been too early for their appearance, or else the summer lodgers of the neighboring hotels and farm-houses had gathered them all. A little further to the east, I looked for *Heleocharis quadrangulata*, R. Br., where I had discovered it September 2, 1879. It was now in flower, and still plentiful. In coasting back along the eastern shore we found *Taxus baccata*, L., var. *Canadensis*. Gray, as abundant on the rocks as in September, 1879. On one of the undisturbed and untilled islets in the middle of the lake, it was a surprise to see *Solanum Dulcamara*, L., flourishing luxuriantly amongst the aboriginal vegetation.

After dinner, at 2 P.M., Mr. P. P. Clarke drove me over from Stillwater to Blairstown, six miles, in order to take the evening train at that place. For three miles along the road the eye was attracted by the frequent occurrence of *Zanthoxylum Americanum*, Mill., *Rosa rubiginosa*, L., and *Cnicus pumilus*, Torr. Midway on the route, we turned into a lane, to the left, and soon reached a lakelet of oblong shape and about three-fourths of a mile in length called White Pond. A white line of shell-marl all around its margin indicates the origin of the name, it lies in Warren County close to its Sussex boundary. The boat we had counted on for the work of circumnavigation could be seen some distance out on the water, occupied by two men, who were fishing for black bass. Our exploration had, therefore, to be done on foot, and so we tramped for nearly one-half a mile through a wide swamp on the border of the pond. The plants noted and collected here were: *Sarracenia purpurea*, L., and *Prunus Virginiana*, L., (in fruit), *Potentilla fruticosa*, L., (in flower and abundant), *Parnassia Caroliniana*, Mx., and *Menyanthes trifoliata*, L., (leaves), *Rhynchospora capillacea*, Torr., *Carex flava*, L., (over ripe), *C. Œderi*, Ehrh., (in good condition) and *Bromus Kalmii*, Gray. Of these, two (*Rhynchospora capillacea*, Torr., and *Carex Œderi*, Ehrh.) are new to the flora of New Jersey. *Carex flava*, L., was collected years ago by the late Dr. A. P. Garber in Sussex County, where he also obtained *Lobelia Kalmii*, L., but the latter was sought for in vain. The results of my visit to the charming lakelet gave me so much pleasure that I mean to see more of it at an early day.

Easton, Penn. THOS. C. PORTER,

**Sweet Cicely as a Bur.**—Yesterday, while rambling among the shady ravines and hillsides of the Virginia shore of the Potomac, and immediately above this city, I observed that my clothing was bristling with slender, spindle-shaped burs, some of which made their presence felt by penetrating to my skin. Spanish needles! I said; but no, I had not seen the plant that day. A glance showed that they were the linear fruits of *Osmorrhiza longistylis*, very abundant there, its foliage wholly gone and leaving the dry branching stalks loaded with fruit which only needed to be touched to be shaken off, and through dense patches of which I had been walking. I had never been thus troubled before and my curiosity was excited, as I was not aware of this bur-like nature of the sweet cicely. It was useless to remove the burs till I had wholly left the place, when I made a business of it.

On carefully examining the seeds after I reached home I easily discovered the secret. The narrowed base of each fruit terminates in a sharp spinous point, and this is backwardly bearded with stiff, white bristles, closely simulating in form and function the grains of some Aristidas and other grasses. Wondering why I had not always known this, I at once turned to the books to see how the authors had described this peculiarity. To my great surprise I was unable to find any distinct mention in any work at my hand of this, certainly the most striking character of the genus. Bentham and Hooker's "Fructus * * * basi longius attenuatus; carpella * * * sursum ciliata" certainly does not describe it. Gray says: "Fruit * * * tapering downwards into a stalk like base * * * the carpels with *upwardly* bristly ribs;" while Chapman contents himself by merely mentioning the "carpels with bristly ribs." It seems clear that the function of these bristles and the narrowed base, as a means of distribution like other burs, cannot have been present to the minds of any of these authors, and I write this partly to ask where the discovery of this function in *Osmorrhiza* has been formally announced, if anywhere.

The barb being at the base of the seed, or at the point of attachment to the plant, it is necessary that it shall first drop off and depend upon finding the distributing agent in the course of its fall of